

WATER

Duxbury Clipper, Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Water Report Points to Lower Usage

By SUSANNA SHOHAM

For a long while Duxbury residents have been hearing about how their water usage is among the highest per capita in the state. Now, the Water Department has released information that may change that designation.

According to a water audit report given to selectmen this week, in 1994 17% of all the town's water was "unaccounted for," said water department superintendent Carl Hillstrom. This figure is "a little high," he added, "higher than the state likes to see."

This percentage was determined after a leak survey was completed in July 1995. The survey, required by the state as part of the town's water withdrawal permit, discovered that Duxbury's water system had 26 leaks with an

To Page 29

WATER

From page 1

estimated total annual leakage of 38 million gallons. Duxbury's water system produces 514 million gallons a year, and residents consume 460 million gallons annually.

In addition to the millions of gallons of water gushing out of water mains into nowhere and affecting the town's usage numbers, Hillstrom said the department discovered that master meters on all but one of the wells were overestimating the amount of water being pumped out. One well meter near Millbrook over registered water use by